Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

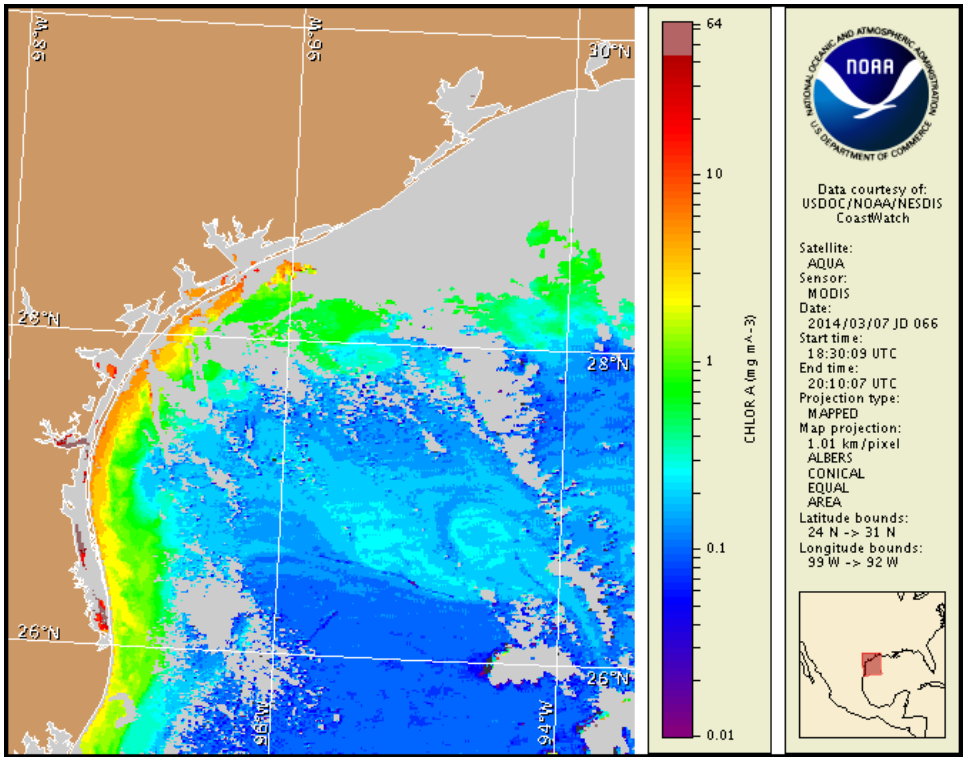
Monday, 10 March 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 3, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from February 28 to March 3: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml

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To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Texas red tide) along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, March 10 through Monday, March 17.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

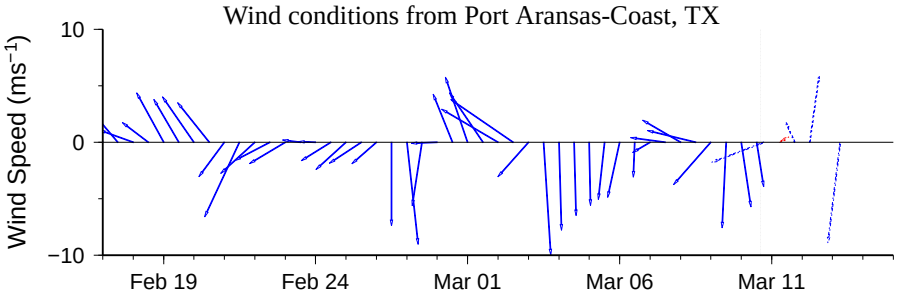
Analysis

There is currently no indication of *Karenia brevis* along the coast of Texas. For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua Imagery is obscured by clouds from Sabine Pass to the Pass Cavallo region, limiting analysis. Elevated chlorophyll (2-10 μg/L) is visible in patches along- and offshore from Pass Cavallo to south of the Rio Grande. The elevated chlorophyll is most likely not indicative of the presence of *K. brevis* and is probably due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of >150km south from the Port Aransas region from March 7 to 13.

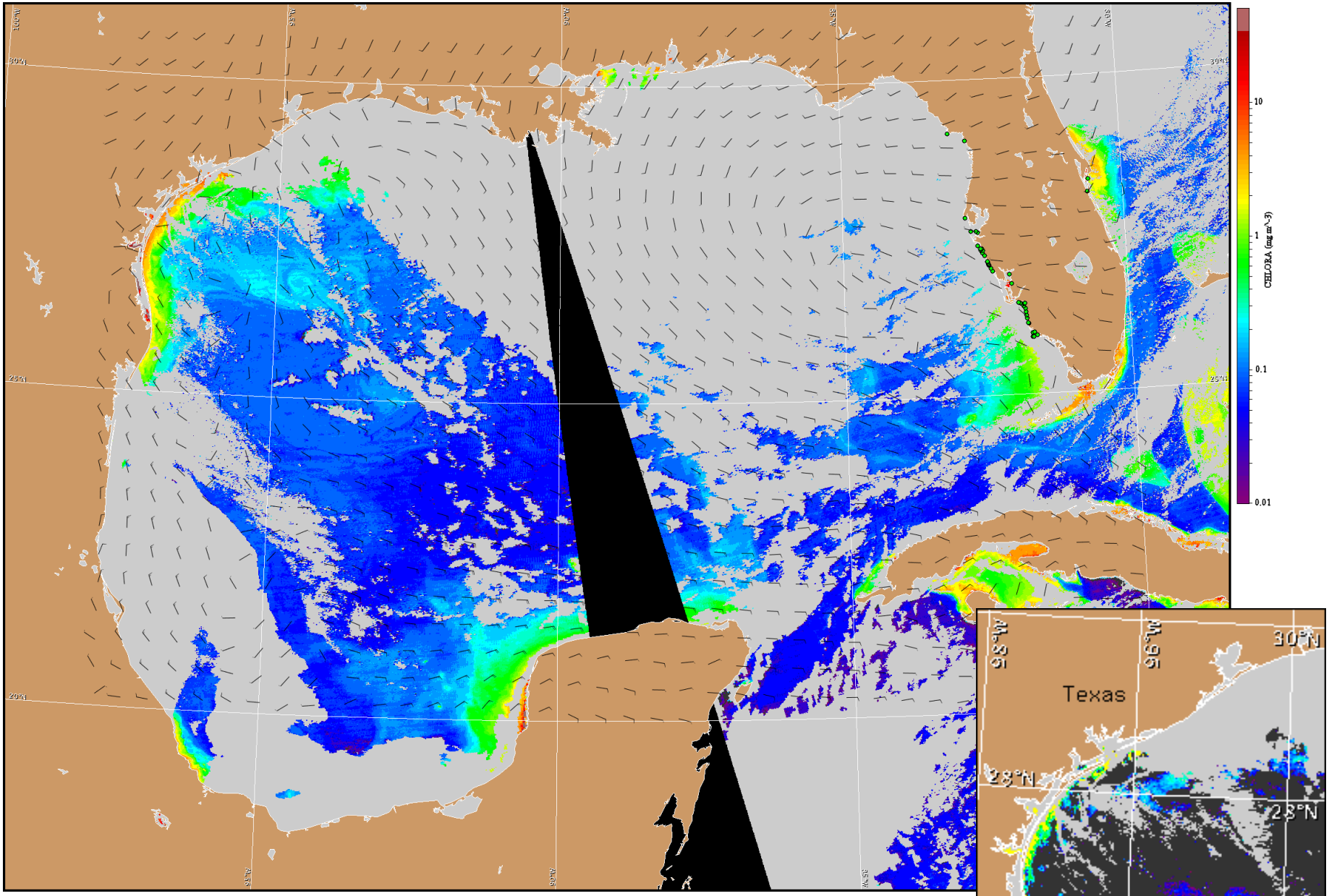
Kavanaugh, Derner, Schneider



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

Port Aransas: Northeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) today becoming east winds (5-10kn) tonight and then north winds after midnight. West winds (5-10kn) Tuesday becoming southwest to south winds Tuesday afternoon until after midnight. North winds (15-30kn, 8-15m/s) Wednesday. Northeast to east winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Thursday becoming southeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Thursday night through Friday night.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 11, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 28 to March 3: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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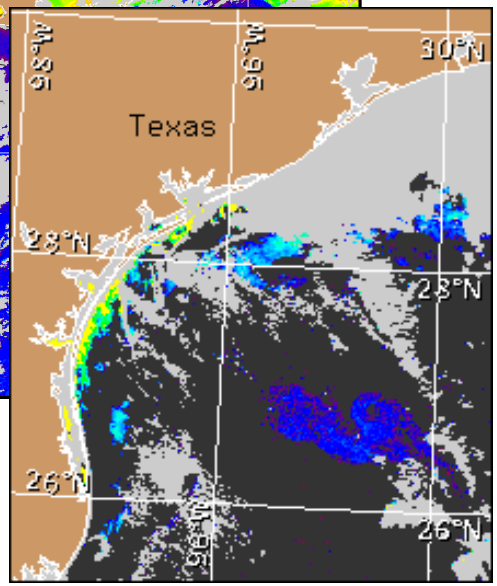

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).